in this matter; and

(d) if so, their response thereto ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION (SHRI GIRIDHAR GOMANGO): (a) Employment generation, population control, literacy, education, health, provision of drinking water and adequate food, alleviation of poverty and removal of scavanging are national priorities.

(b) Allocations for plan programmes in social sectors having an impact on these priorities have increased after 1991-92. The annual plan outlays for social sectors for the Centre and States/UTs from 1991-92 to 1993-94 are given below :—

Plan Outlay/Expenditure

(Rs. crores)

Head of development	1991-92 Actual	1992-93 Revised Estimates	1993-94 Budgetted Estimates
Education (General+Technical)	2325	2732	3637
Health	925	1276	1622
Family Welfare	1023	1041	1270
Welfare of SCs. STs and OBCs	861	928	1199
Rural Development	4142	5010	6188

(c) and (d) India has a long tradition of private (corporate, non-corporate and household) initiative in bringing about social development. and such initiative is always welcome. Eighth Five Year Plan seeks to make development, a peoples movement and focuses on multiple institutional options for improving the delivery system by using the vast potential of the voluntary sector.

People living below poverty line

3710. SHRI KRISHAN LAL SHARMA: Will the Minister of PLANNING AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the number of people living below the poverty line in the country has increased during the last three years

(b) if so, the details thereof and its percentage to the total population; and

(c) the specific measures taken to eleviate the level of these people and the results achieved in respect of each measures taken as on date ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION (SHRI GIRIDHAR GOMANGO): (a) and (b) Planning Commission estimates incidence of poverty at the national and state levels using the quinquennial survey data on Household Consumption Expenditure released by

the National Sample Survey Organisation (NSSO). The latest estimates of poverty are based on the quinquennial survey held in 1987-88. As such, the estimates of poverty in the country are not available for the last three years. As estimated in the Planning Commission, the incidence of poverty came down from 51.5 per cent of population in 1972-73 to 29.9 per cent in 1987-88. Correspondingly the number of poor came down from 291.5 million in 1972-73 to 237.7 million in 1987-88. An Expert Group has estimated the incidence to have come down from 54.9 per cent in 1973-74 to 39.3 per cent in 1987-88.

(c) There is a three-pronged attack on poverty, i.e. (i) acceleration of economic growth, (ii) human and social development through literacy, education, health, nutrition, meeting the minimum needs, elevation of social and economic status of the weaker sections of the society, etc., and (iii) direct attack on poverty through employment and income generating programmes and asset-building for the poor. The main among these programmes are the Integrated Rural Development Programme, the Jawahar Rozgar Yojna, Nehru Rozgar Yojana, Employment Assurance Scheme (1993) and Prime Minister Rozgar Yojana for the Educated Unemployed Youth (1993). The entire effort at development and all the programmes have a combined affect on poverty alleviation.

Amount allocated to Darjeeling Gorkha Hill Council

3711. SHRI RATNA BAHADUR RAI: Will the Minister of PLANNING AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION be pleased to state:

(a) the amount of Central Assistance (Special) allotted to the Darjeeling Gorkha Hill Council during the last three years, year-wise;

(b) the amount of money allotted and released under Jawahar Rozgar Yojana to the D.G.H.C. during this period; and

(c) whether the utilisation certificates of these amounts were received ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION (SHRI GIRIDHAR GOMANGO): (a) Central Assistance, as indicated below, has been allocated to the West Bengal in respect of the major part of the Darjeeling District included as designated hill area under the Hill Area Development Programme:

	(Rs. crores)
1991-92	19.32
1992-93	19.32
1993-94	20.61

(b) Year-wise releases made under the Jawahar Rozgar Yojana (JRY) to the Darjeeling District, including the state share, are indicated below :—

	(Rs. lakhs)
1991-92	122.49
1992-93	273.69
1993-94	331.00

(c) Utilisation Certificates under JRY have been received upto 1992-93. Utilisation Certificate in respect of funds allocated under the Hill Area Development Programme are awaited from the Government of West Bengal.